

Rick W. Bauer
P.O.Box 1303
Graham, WA 98338

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department Of Justice
50 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20530

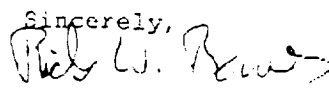
Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I am a proponent of this settlement. Needless resources have been expended over the course of this litigation. I strongly urge the Department Of Justice to put an end to this unnecessary waste of resources.

This lawsuit should not have been brought in the first place. The case lacks merit, and was brought only as a result of pressure exerted by Microsoft's competitors in Silicon Valley and with the help sympathetic interest groups. As you know, some of those groups were in the highest levels of elected office.

Mr. Ashcroft, history already proves when and where the the breaking point in the stock market was. It was March 1999 when Judge Jackson made his decision against Microsoft. That was the straw that broke the camels back. Our economy went into a downhill slide and has never recovered. Then Sept. 11, 2001, and now Enron enter the picture. How much more can our economy withstand, especially With Sen. Daschel holding our economy hostage to achieve his own personal agenda. I believe that you are the Attorney General that is able to understand the political and economic impact of this situation better than any before you. The reason being that you are not so far removed from the process that you have had time forget.

The terms of the settlement agreement are quite reasonable, and should be approved without delay. Microsoft has agreed to the establishment of a technical oversight committee, has agreed to share its internal information with its competitors, and has agreed to change its business practices to better comply with antitrust laws. Nothing more should be asked of this corporation. I whole heartedly support the Microsoft settlement, and hope to see a rapid conclusion to this case. Thank You.

Sincerely,

Rick W. Bauer
Hm.253-875-4785
Wk.253-475-4151
rick99now@yahoo.com